

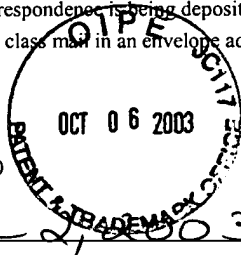
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On October 2, 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Bonnie Pickles



PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 040159-000000US
Client Reference No.: 36061-0009

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

H.-Rudi Kroeker et al.

Application No.: 10/644,661

Filed: August 19, 2003

For: COOLING SYSTEM FOR A
TRUNNION RING AND
METALLURGICAL FURNACE
VESSEL

Examiner:

Art Unit:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and
§1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Sir:

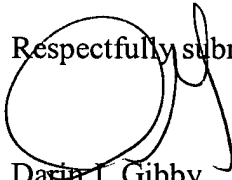
The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of any U.S. patents are not enclosed. Copies of all other cited references are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

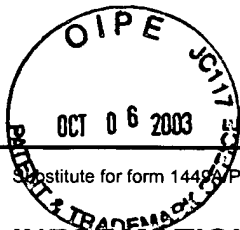
As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement.

However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Darin J. Gibby
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60051744 v1



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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|---|---|----|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | Complete if Known | | |
| | | | Application Number | 10/644,661 | |
| | | | Filing Date | August 19, 2003 | |
| | | | First Named Inventor | H.-Rudi Kroeker et al. | |
| | | | Art Unit | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 2 | Examiner Name | |
| | | | | Attorney Docket Number | 040159-000000US |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+ | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| | AA | US-3,163,695 | 12-29-1964 | H. Bumberger | |
| | AB | US-4,085,924 | 04-25-1978 | Fisher et al. | |
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| | AH | US- | | | |

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|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | AI | CA | 2,294,949 | | 01-21-1999 | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | AJ | CA | 1,106,869 | | 08-11-1981 | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

60051744 v1



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|--|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | | Application Number | 10/644,661 |
| | | Filing Date | August 19, 2003 |
| | | First Named Inventor | H.-Rudi Kroeker et al. |
| | | Art Unit | |
| | | Examiner Name | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 040159-000000US |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) <i>(please identify below):</i> 1. Form PTO/SB/08A and SB/08B 2. Return Postcard |
| Remarks | | The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430. |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | |
|--|---|
| Firm or Individual | Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP Darin J. Gibby Reg. No. 38,464 |
| Signature | |
| Date | 10/2/03 |

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| Typed or printed name | Bonnie Rickles | | |
| Signature | | Date | Oct. 2, 2003 |